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Riding to beat cancer

Submitted Photo
Members of Team Innisfil Fire prepare to take part in the 2013 Enbridge Ride to Conquer Cancer. From left are Tom Raeburn, Kevin Maisine, Michelle Ashby and Kevin Ashby. This year's 'Team Innisfil' is having a fundraising dinner dance at the Stone Grille in Stroud on March 29. To learn more, call 705-294-4998.

Special to the Examiner

Six motivated Innisfil residents are pedaling over 200 kilometers in a quest to conquer cancer.

And to support their cause, they're putting on a fundraising dinner dance March 29 at the Stone Grille in Stroud.

Team Innisfil, (originally Team Innisfil Fire) started by Deputy Fire Chief Tom Raeburn seven years ago, will be riding in the 7th annual Enbridge Ride to Conquer Cancer this June.

"The team first entered 'The Ride' to support a fellow Innisfil fire fighter who was diagnosed with cancer he obtained on the job," said team member Kevin Ashby. "That fire fighter has sadly since passed away but the team carries on and has raised over $70,000 in the process.

"The team has evolved over the years to become a community team but the goal has not changed: to ride in honour of loved ones who have passed away or who are currently battling this terrible disease. They raise money and ride in hopes that one day the suffering will end."

The Ride To Conquer Cancer is an annual event that challenges each participant to raise $2,500 and ride over 200 kilometres from Toronto to Niagara Falls. Last year, 5,020 riders helped raise $19.1 million. The money raised benefits the Princess Margaret Cancer Centre, one of the top five cancer research centres in the world.

Funds support the continuity of world-leading research programs, including immune therapy, stem cell and tumour hypoxia programs along with treatment advances, education and new standards.

In six years, the Ride To Conquer Cancer has raised over $99.3 million at the Toronto event and over $194.6 million for cancer research, treatment and care programs across Canada, in other locations.

The fundraising dinner event at the Stone Grille features a prime rib dinner, dance, DJ, prizes and silent auction for only $40 per ticket.

The ride team hopes the community comes out to enjoy a fun night out at a local venue while supporting a terrific cause.

Limited tickets are available at the Stone Grille. More information, call 705-294-4998 or visit www.thestonegrille.ca.

Towns look at paid policing

MIRIAM KING
Innisfil Examiner

Organizers of special events in Innisfil and Bradford West Gwillimbury could soon be footing the bill for a police presence.

Every year, South Simcoe police are asked to provide security and traffic control for between 30 and 35 special events and parades in the two municipalities. The use of cruisers and off-duty officers costs more than $28,000 per year — including more than $15,000 in overtime alone — and those costs would be higher by about $39,000 if the police force couldn't rely on volunteer auxiliary officers to fill in where needed.

As part of a cost-cutting initiative, South Simcoe police have been asked by the Bradford West Gwillimbury/Innisfil Police Services Board to consider options for at least partial cost-recovery for providing the service and on Monday night, a report was presented to the board.

SEE PAGE 7

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Keeping those Cookstown memories alive

MIRIAM KING
Innisfil Examiner

The Village of Cookstown has always had a strong sense of community, but it certainly was easier to maintain earlier in the last century.

"In those days, everybody helped everybody else," explained resident and native son Al Dawson. The village not only had a thriving downtown, with stores open late every Tuesday and Friday night, but also rail service, a softball team — "Baseball was one of the biggest things that healed the towns after the war" — and its own band, the Cookstown Band.

Dawson was one of two guest speakers at the March 15 meeting of the Innisfil Historical Society, sharing stories of growing up in Cookstown.

There were three active churches in the village — Anglican, United Church and Presbyterian — all of them full on a Sunday morning with busy Sunday schools, church choirs and active youth groups. Busloads of people would come up from the city to enjoy the church suppers and the annual fall fair drew school groups and fair-goers from around the region.

Dawson shared slides and photos of earlier days, from Tom Webb's blacksmith shop to the fire department's pumper, which had to be hand-filled with buckets of water by the volunteers, and which was frankly inadequate to fight any blaze.

"I could ---- a bigger stream," Dawson said.

There was plenty of laughter, but also a serious message: "To a lot of people, it's a little town at the corner of 89 and 27," said Dawson, but to its residents, it was something special.

MIRIAM KING Innisfil Examiner

Innisfil Coun. Lynn Dollin and Cookstown resident Al Dawson were guest speakers at the Saturday, March 15 meeting of the Innisfil Historical Society at the Knock Schoolhouse heritage site. Here, they look at an old black and white photo of Dawson in his elementary school days.

"Life in Cookstown was great. I would never have given up any part of it."

But times have changed. There are empty storefronts on the main street, the trains stopped running decades ago, the fair is gone, "church congregations are in disarray" and while the local elementary school is bigger than ever, high school age students now attend Banting Memorial in Alliston or Nantyr Shores in Alcona.

"There are a lot of changes taking place," said Dawson, noting that "adaptability is the key to survival" and now Cookstown is part of the larger Town of Innisfil.

There are new challenges facing the village, agreed Ward Coun. Lynn Dollin, who has represented the area since she was first elected in 1994, and who was the second speaker of the afternoon.

"Traffic is one of the challenges we've faced," she said, noting that up to 25,000 vehicles pass through the village daily and that the Alliston Honda Plant shift changes are marked by gridlock and chaos on local roads.

She agreed that the village lost much of its economic base over the last two decades when growth was basically stalled due to a lack of water or sewage capacity.

"No growth is worse than growth," Dollin said, but now the Town of Innisfil is investing in infrastructure for the village. A watermain completed last year will provide water from the town's Lakeshore Water Treatment Plant, permitting the construction of new subdivisions. There is a new public library and community centre, and this year, the village will get a new fire hall.

At the same time, Innisfil is looking at preserving the history and heritage of Cookstown by designating a Heritage Conservation District, and working on an implementation strategy. "There is controversy, but we're going forward with it," Dollin said. "We'll see if it works. We're going to move forward, gently," and hopefully persuade opponents that an HCD is a positive step.

Cookstown may have lost its band, rail service and fall fair, but it still has local festivals that include Light Up Night, the Santa Claus Parade, Georgian Bay Steam Show and Wing Ding, that continue to bring the community together, Dollin concluded.

"There's no other village in Innisfil that's preserved its history the way Cookstown does," agreed society member Donna Wice.

During the March 15 meeting, Ross Wallace asked Dollin if there would be protection for historic trees in Cookstown.

Dollin replied that the Heritage Conservation District being established will cover streetscapes. "It will protect things like the Memorial Park (a grove of trees beside the Cenotaph)," and the town will require a tree study for every new development proposed.

"We will save trees... but there will be times when we can't save them," she said, pointing to the stately oak tree in the middle of the lot the town purchased for an expansion of the Cookstown fire hall. "We have to have this fire hall," Dollin said.

As for controversy, whether a matter of designating a Heritage Conservation District or preserving a tree, she said, "Controversy is not a bad thing. If there's no controversy, that means people don't care."

The next meeting of the Innisfil Historical Society will be on Saturday, April 26, at the Knock Schoolhouse, 9th Line of Innisfil and 10 Sideroad, at 2 p.m.

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Restaurant fire investigation ongoing

IAN MCINROY
Innisfil Examiner

A fire that ripped through a lakeside restaurant east of Stroud early Sunday remains under investigation.

There were no injuries.

Innisfil firefighters were called to the Bistro on the Lake near the corner of the 10th Concession and 25th Sideroad around 2 a.m.

A passerby noticed the flames and called 911, said Mike Symes, fire prevention officer with Innisfil Fire and Rescue Service.

The small restaurant had not been open for about a year, according to a witness.

Ontario Office of the Fire Marshal (OFM) spokesperson Gina Pontikas said OFM investigators have wrapped up the initial stage of their examination of the blaze.

"They are finished their on-scene investigation but their investigation continues," she said, adding evidence was collected and will be examined. "That would be part of the process. So they'd have to wait for lab reports and tests to be done."

“The fire marshal's office wrapped up their investigation and it will be couple of weeks before we hear anything,” Symes said, adding the fire was pretty much contained to the attic and the front of the building.

About 25 firefighters from the Alcona and Stroud stations responded to the fire.

MIRIAM KING Innisfil Examiner

The Ontario Office of the Fire Marshal is continuing its investigation into a fire at the Bistro on the Lake restaurant near the corner of the 10th Concession and 25th Sideroad. Innisfil firefighters were called to the fire around 2 a.m. Sunday

localbriefs

NUMEROUS CHARGES LAID

BRADFORD – A Bradford man faces seven charges after a series of incidents Tuesday.

South Simcoe police investigating a 6 p.m. collision at Disette Street and Holland Street East noticed alcohol on one driver's breath. He was arrested and taken to the police station, where police say his irrational behaviour resulted in a phone being ripped off the wall while he was speaking with a lawyer.

The man was later released with an April court date, but taken to hospital for a mental assessment. He went home later.

Just after 11:30 p.m., police were called to his home. Officers learned he had returned in a foul mood and fought with his brother. He punched a man in the head several times and drew a knife, police said. Several holes were also punched in the walls of the home.

Police arrested a 23-year-old man without incident. He is charged with impaired driving causing bodily harm, refusing a breath test, driving while disqualified, assault, two counts of mischief and weapons dangerous to the public peace.

Police say neither the brother nor the other driver in the collision were seriously injured.

IMPAIRED DRIVERS NABBED

South Simcoe police continue to take drivers off the road.

Officers investigated a driver Tuesday at 9:30 p.m. in a Bradford restaurant parking lot. He was given a roadside screening test, resulting in a 'warn'. The man's driver's licence was suspended for three days.

Thirty minutes later in Alcona, police stopped a vehicle and determined its driver was a novice, wasn't accompanied and was suspended.

A 27-year-old Innisfil man is charged with driving under suspension and being a G1 driver unaccompanied by a qualified driver.

TIP LEADS TO DRUNK DRIVE ARREST

A tip led South Simcoe police to an impaired driver just after 11 p.m., Monday.

After receiving the tip, an officer went to the area where the vehicle was registered and spotted a car on the 10th Line. It was stopped and police spoke to the driver, determining he had been drinking.

A 47-year-old Innisfil man has been charged with having more than the legal limit of alcohol in his blood system. His driver's licence was suspended for 90 days, his car was impounded and he has an April court date.

SWERVING DRIVER CURBED

A Bradford man faces dangerous and impaired driving charges after a southbound White Nissan work van crossed into the northbound lanes on Bridge Street Tuesday evening.

South Simcoe police officers say the van crossed three lanes of traffic before northbound traffic had to brake to avoid it. The van then swerved into the centre turning lane, police said.

It was driven erratically for a short distance before police stopped it. The driver was arrested and taken to South Division station for testing.

A 48-year-old man is charged with dangerous driving, impaired driving, having more than the legal limit of alcohol in his system and breaching the terms of his release on another charge.

His driver's licence was suspended for 90 days and his vehicle was impounded. He has an April court date.

MOTHER NATURE ONE-TWO PUNCH

Police say a multi-vehicle collision on the 5th Sideroad was the result of blowing white-outs, Saturday afternoon. South Simcoe Police said the collision began when a southbound vehicle stopped when he could no longer see the road during a snowstorm. It set off a chain reaction of four vehicles rear-ending each other as the snow squalls continued. Only one person was sent to hospital as a precaution. The 5th Sideroad was closed between the 9th and 10th Concessions until the weather improved.

DRUGGED DRIVER BUSTED

South Simcoe Police investigating a collision on Queen Street in Cookstown around 3 p.m. ascertained that no one had been injured in the crash.

However, several witnesses pointed out to police that they had been following one of the vehicles before the collision, concerned as it swerved across the road. The officer spoke to the 27-year-old Innisfil woman driver and determined she was impaired by drugs.

She was taken to the station and arrested for impaired driving.

LAWN NO PLACE TO PARK

BRADFORD – A man was arrested after a crash left him parked on someone's lawn Sunday.

South Simcoe Police responded to a collision around 2:30 a.m. Sunday morning on Simcoe Road where a southbound vehicle had been struck by a northbound vehicle that drove off the road and landed nearby on a resident's lawn.

The southbound female driver was taken to hospital with minor injuries.

The 23-year-old Bradford man was charged with impaired driving, had his license suspended for 90 days and his car impounded for a week. He has an April court date.

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opinion

Save the monarch by planting milkweed

The Ontario government's removal of milkweed from its list of noxious weeds — meaning milkweed can now be grown on public property — will give some aid to the monarch butterfly, which counts on the milkweed for its survival.

But it may not be enough.

The challenge for the beleaguered monarch, whose numbers have dropped significantly in recent years, has never been that milkweed was considered a noxious weed in this province. The problem was milkweed has been all but obliterated from the farm fields of Ontario and the American Midwest because of chemical technology.

Indeed, the World Wildlife Fund earlier this year announced it found only

1.7 acres of the butterflies in 11 monarch sanctuaries in Mexico this past winter. That compares to 45 acres in 1996.

Corn and soybeans have been genetically modified in the last 20 years to survive glyphosate, a weed-killer. When farmers now use the chemical, every plant in their fields is destroyed, with the exception of those genetically modified to withstand the glyphosate.

Farmers have become more efficient, yields have increased and the amount of chemical used on farm fields has decreased because it's more precise.

Milkweed is important to monarchs because the butterflies lay their eggs into the plant, which is the only food monarch caterpillars can eat.

But the fact milkweed has now been removed from Ontario's "most wanted" list doesn't change its status on Ontario's farm fields. Milkweed will still be destroyed by glyphosaate.

Yet, there is an opportunity for its revival outside agriculture. Municipalities are no longer obligated to destroy milkweed from public property.

Indeed, communities may want to plant milkweed gardens, and municipalities and schools may want to encourage the growth of milkweed on their properties.

Still, the monarch faces an uphill battle.

Some American states are so thoroughly agricultural that the milkweed has been almost wiped out.

In Iowa, for example, an estimated 98% of that state's acreage has become inhospitable to milkweed.

In those places, it would make sense to provide some organized refuge for the milkweed.

Perhaps Ontario can lead the way.

• QMI AGENCY

Column

Transportation plan rolling

CAL PATTERSON
SIMCOE COUNTY

Simcoe County spans across 4,800 kilometre of land and is home to 16 municipalities, as well as two separated cities. With such diversity, it is important that the County's transportation strategy considers our vast geography, growing permanent and seasonal residents, and expanding economy.

In 2013, we informed the public about a County initiative to update the 2008 Transportation Master Plan, which provided the "big picture" framework for planned transportation in Simcoe County for the next 25 years. The first phase of the update commenced in spring 2013, and included Public Information Centres and an online survey to obtain feedback from of our residents, stakeholders and government partners.

Your feedback was tremendous. Many of the suggestions obtained have been incorporated into an updated Transportation Master Plan Report. The updated Report is aimed at presenting a multi-modal, long-term vision for sustainable transportation within the County.

These updates incorporate the public's feedback about key topics, such as connecting cycling and walking networks, investing in infrastructure, expanding transit service and investigating strategies to reduce volume on County roads.

The updated report includes recommendations for the following eight focus areas:

· An enhanced Roads Network that accommodates active transportation, supports transit and considers environmental impacts;

· Development of Context-Sensitive Road Designs to accommodate supportive modes of travel for all users including pedestrians, cyclists, transit, motor vehicles and freight;

· The feasibility of Roundabouts as a future intersection control measure;

· Research into a future multi-municipal transit network and creation of a Transit Working Group;

· A focus on developing an active transportation route network and planning that recognizes active transportation as an alternative transportation mode, a way to promote healthy lifestyle and opportunities for the tourism industry;

· Consideration of other multi-modal transportation options including strategies for air, marine and rail travel;

· Strategies to reduce volume and manage demand on County roads;

· An overview of feedback gathered through public consultations and stakeholder meetings.

Public feedback is key to the ongoing development of the updated Transportation Master Plan. As such, the County of Simcoe has undertaken a second round of Public Information Centres throughout March.

There is one Public Information Centres remaining on Tuesday March 25 at the Town of Wasaga Beach RecPlex.

If you can't attend one of the Public Information Centres, an online questionnaire is available at research.net/s/SimcoeTMP.

The next phase of the Transportation Master Plan update will include an implementation strategy. The final Plan is scheduled to be presented to County Council for final approval in fall 2014. For more information visit simcoe.ca/dpt/pln/trsplanupdate/index.htm.

Cal Patterson is warden of Simcoe County

Letters

Returning Canadian troops are heroes

Our troops ended their involvement in Afghanistan in a typically Canadian way – quietly and with minimal pomp and ceremony; we just lowered our flag and left.

Canada should be proud of what it did over those 12 years. This was a 'War of Choice' and a 'War Among the People' – the two most difficult scenarios for any military.

Each time that we achieved what we set out to do, the government changed the strategic objective. Our troops helped eliminate the Taliban training camps in short order under Operation Apollo in 2002.

Rather than pulling out, we supported our allies by helping to shore up and stabilize the Afghan central government. Afghanistan's first democratic election was held Oct. 9 2004 and Hamid Karzai came to power.

The scenario then changed again as the International Security Assistance Force stood down and we assisted NATO with its Provincial Reconstruction Team strategy, where we and our allies went into the war-torn provinces to help bring stability to those areas.

This near-impossible task was aggravated by the collateral damage and deaths of Afghan civilians caused during their attacks on our troops.

Due to the strong links among the Afghan tribes, families, and villages, each time a local citizen died, several men would swear revenge and take up arms against our troops and those of our allies – a proverbial hydra monster. Most of these men were then labelled, rightly or wrongly, as Taliban.

In 2011, when the Canadian Forces' Operation Athena ended and Operation Attention started, Canada was one of the most respected nations which stayed to help deliver training and professional development support to the national security forces of Afghanistan: the Afghan National Army, the Afghan Air Force, and the Afghan National Police.

Although some would argue the 350,000 people we have helped train over the last three years are insufficient to provide stability to Afghanistan, it is time that we let them do the job on their own.

The Canadian Forces have carried out their four missions in Afghanistan with professionalism and deserve to be welcomed home as the heroes that they are.

William A. Sergeant
President, Veterans' Club of Barrie

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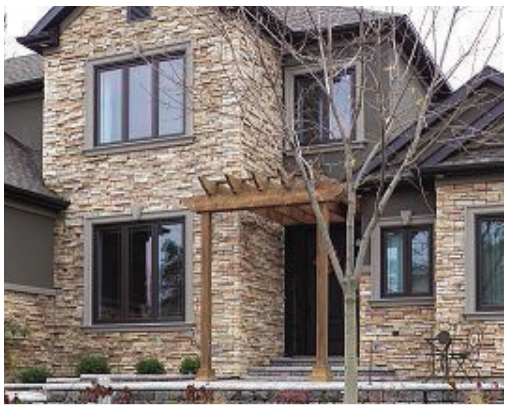

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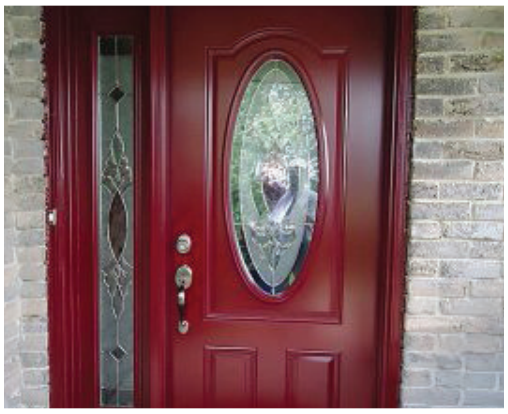

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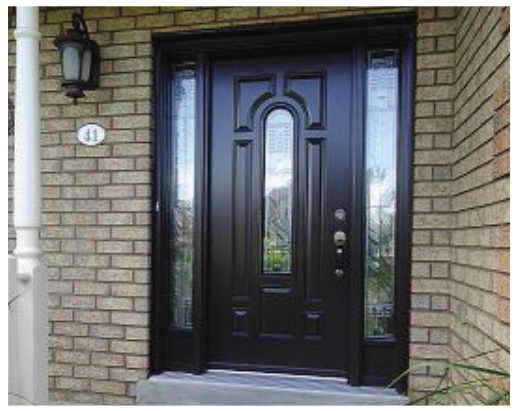

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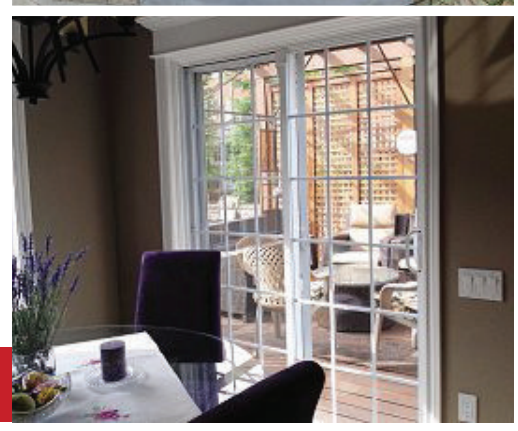

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community listings

MAR. 22

AWARE Simcoe is hosting an educational event - a free screening of the documentary film, Vanishing of the Bees, on Saturday, March 22 at 10:30 a.m. in the Utopia Hall, 8396 - 6th Line of Essa. The screening will be followed by a discussion with Cookstown-area beekeeper, Peter Dickey of Dickey Bee Honey, and Refreshments. All welcome.

MAR. 22, 27

The Innisfil Public Library will be hosting the Canada Revenue Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP) again this year. Certified volunteers will be available for 20 to 30 minute appointments at the Stroud Branch, 7883 Yonge Street, to help eligible individuals complete their income tax and benefit returns.

This free service will be available at the following times: Thursdays: 27th and April 3rd, 10th from 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Saturdays: March 22nd and April 5th from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. Volunteers do not complete income tax and benefit returns for deceased persons, bankrupt individuals, or individuals who have capital gains or losses, employment expenses, or business or rental income and expenses. Please register in person or by phone at the Stroud Branch - (705) 436-1681. Appointments are not mandatory but ensure a shorter waiting time.

MAR. 26

The annual Innisfil Prayer Breakfast will take place on Wednesday, March 26 upstairs at the Stroud Community Centre. Please sign in by 7:25 a.m. The breakfast and prayers will be finished by about 8:45 a.m. Special guest will be Innisfil Mayor Barb Baguley. Tickets are $15 each, to cover costs. Please RSVP by March 17, to Rev. Howard Courtney at 705-436-1611.

MAR. 28

Delicious Roast Beef Dinner & Brown Bag Auction Friday March 28 at St. James United Church, Stroud. Tickets are $15.00 the 6 p.m. only sitting. For tickets, please call the church office (705) 436-5225

MAR. 29

Do you love chili? Have you got a treasured a chili recipe that knocks the socks off all the others? Enter the Annual Chili Contest at the Lefroy-Belle Ewart Legion on Saturday, March 29. Register by calling 705-456-9728. All chilies must be in a crock pot and brought to the Legion Hall, 1017 Robinson St. in Belle Ewart, by 1:30 p.m. Please bring a ladle, and any accompaniments, from cheese to chives. The public is welcomed to attend from 2 to 4 p.m. - and for just $5 per person, receive a bowl, roll and bottle of water. Sample all of the chilis, and choose your favourite!

APR. 4

Innisfil Eastern Star will host a card party at 7 p.m. on Friday, April 4 t the Masonic Hall, 2156 Victoria Street. Games will include bid euchre and progressive euchre. There will be cash prizes and a lunch served. The cost of the evening is $7. For information or tickets, call 705-431-5049. Innisfil Eastern Star will also be hosting additional card parties on Friday, May 2, and Friday, June 6.

APR. 5, 6

The Tiffin Centre for Conservation, 8195 - 8th Line of Essa, hosts the Spring Tonic Maple Syrup Festival, April 5 and 6. From 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., enjoy tours of the sugar bush and maple syrup-making demonstrations, War of 1812 re-enactments, live music, horse-drawn wagon rides and the critters of Zoo to You. From 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., enjoy pancakes, sausages and real maple syrup. Cost is $10 for adults, $5 for kids two to 12, and free for infants.

APR. 7

York-Simcoe Provincial NDP will be holding a nomination meeting to select a candidate for the next provincial election, which could be called as early as this spring. The meeting will be taking place Monday, April 7 at the Bradford & District Memorial Community Centre, 125 Simcoe Rd. in Bradford, at 7 p.m. For more information, contact Keith Lindsay at 1-888-881-4ndp or contact@ndpyorsimcoe.ca for details

APR. 12

On Saturday, Apr. 12 Alan Rhody performs a live concert at Music Up Close House Concerts at 2226 Richard St. in Innisfil beginning at 8 p.m. with a suggested minimum donation of $20 per seat. Call Peter @705-436-3927 to reserve your seats. Coffee and treats served at intermission. Visit www.musicupclose.com for more info.

APR. 14

The Gilford & District Horticultural Society meets Monday, April 14 at the Churchill Community Centre, at 7:30 p.m. Guest speaker is Karl Kohnen, on 'Grasses for the Garden'.

APR. 19

The Rotary Club of Innisfil holds its second annual Celebration by the Lake Gala, on Saturday, April 19, at the Kempenfelt Conference Centre, 3722 Fairway Rd. in Innisfil. The evening will include dining, dancing, Live and Silent auctions, prizes - and the presentation of Innisfil's Unsung Heroes awards to two residents, an adult and a Youth. The awards will be presented to two individuals who best exemplify the Rotary motto of "Service above Self." There are many citizens who assist, volunteer their time, or contribute to their community, who do not seek recognition for their community-minded service; the awards offer an opportunity to honour these "Unsung Heroes." Nomination forms are available online at www.innisfilrotary.com, and at several businesses in Innisfil, or from any Rotarian. For more information, tickets, or to offer sponsorship, contact Anne Kell, ankeipl@gmail.com or 705-456-3528, or visit the Rotary Club of Innisfil on Facebook.

MAY 4

Want to make a difference? The South Simcoe Streams Network is sending out an 'Early Bird' call for volunteers to participate in Trees for Streams Work Party Days: planting native trees and shrubs along local streams and rivers. Scheduled work days this spring include: April 26 - Adjala -Tosorontio, 9 a.m. to noon; May 3 - New Tecumseth, 9 a.m. to noon; Sunday, May 4 - Innisfil, 9 a.m. to noon; May 24 - Essa Twp., 9 a.m. to noon and Saturday, June 14 in Bradford West Gwillimbury, from 9 a.m. to noon. Register as an individual or a group for a tree planting event. RSVP to Silvia Pedrazzi at silvia@nottawasaga.com or call 705-435-1540. Each day will include an orientation session, and refreshments. Note: high school students are welcome to participate, and earn their community hours. The tree-planting is made possible in part with support from the Government of Ontario and the Ontario Trillium Foundation.

BARRIE BLIZZARD VS. SOUTHWEST CYCLOPS
Sunday,
March 23 at 2 p.m.
Barrie Molson Centre
Tickets available at
Ticketpro.ca,
1 888 655 9090 or at
the BMC Box Office.
With Barrie's two wins this past weekend they have made the playoffs! This game will determine if they finish third or fourth in the standings and face either first place Ohsweken or second place Niagara in the first round of the playoffs.
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localbriefs

BOGUS BILLS CIRCULATED

Barrie police are looking for a man who tried to use phoney $100 bills at two Barrie stores Tuesday evening.

Just before 8 p.m., a man selected merchandise at a Mapleview Drive West store and tried to pay for it – but the clerk determined the money was counterfeit. At a second Mapleview Drive West store, a man made a $20 purchase and got $80 in change – before the clerk realized the $100 bill wasn't real.

Police say the suspect is white, 20-30 years old, of stocky build, stands about 5'8" and has a bald head.

Retailers should be aware that counterfeit $100 bills have been circulated in this area. Anyone with information about these incidents or who recognizes this man is asked to call police at 705-725-7025 or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

Police say the Bank of Canada website also provides helpful tips in detecting phoney bills.

COMMUNITY: Pretty on St. Paddies's

MIRIAM KING Innisfil Examiner

Audrey Creighton was all dressed up for St. Patrick's Day with a green hat and shamrock earrings at Lakeside Retirement home in Alcona on Monday, March 17.

Councils to review board report

FROM PAGE 1

"This is a hot issue across the province," said Staff Sgt. Steve Wilson, pointing out that police services in Barrie, Toronto and the regions of Peel, York, Durham and Halton now require event organizers to hire paid duty officers.

In Barrie, if additional officers for an event are deemed necessary by the chief, organizers pay for them, according to Barrie Police Services Board chairman Doug Jure.

"Where events require an additional police presence to what we'd normally have, and duty officers are assigned, event organizers pay for that," he said. Organizers pay $63.74 per hour for each officer (minimum three hours) and $35 per hour for each police vehicle (minimum one hour).

The Bradford West Gwillimbury/Innisfil Police Services Board report did not recommend either the status quo — which is expected to cost South Simcoe Police $28,207 in 2014 — or full cost-recovery. Instead, it suggested that there be no charge for a police presence at events that are open to the whole community or benefit the whole community — including Santa Claus parades, Canada Day parades and Bradford's Carrotfest — but argued in favour of billing some fundraising groups, including the Heart and Stroke's Big Bike for Heart, 'special interest groups' and events where alcohol is sold for profit.

Board members heard that about 11 of 33 scheduled events in 2014 in Innisfil and BWG would end up paying for policing, reducing the costs to the service by about $9,300.

"I'm sure it's going to be a hot potato, a political potato," said police services board chair Sharon Villani, adding the board had been directed by councils in both municipalities to cut costs.

"In the magnitude of our budget," said Innisfil Mayor Barb Baguley, suggesting that it was a way to begin to introduce full cost-recovery. However, she noted, initial reaction from the public has been strongly negative and there has been a push back, largely because of misunderstanding.

There is no plan to bill Santa Claus, Baguley said, recommending that public meetings be held in both municipalities, to "let people understand what we're talking about."

She pointed out that if the organizations don't pay, "that means the taxpayer is going to continue to pay."

But Bradford West Gwillimbury Mayor Doug White wasn't keen on billing organizations for a police presence.

"I think this is easy to embrace in philosophy, and hard to embrace in practice," he said, especially when it comes to asking fundraisers to pay for policing. "I find it hard to justify charging the Terry Fox Run," White said. "I think that is for the betterment of the community. I think the greater good trumps the $9,300." He pointed out that major events like the Bradford CarrotFest and Ribfest along with Innisfil's Summerfest already pay for officers to be present.

Board member Rod Hicks agreed that the billing should apply to the the major fundraising organizations that employ a full administrative staff, like the Canadian Cancer Society and the Heart and Stroke Foundation.

"I think they should pay for their events," he said, warning of "exponential" growth in street closures, unless the board is "a little proactive now."

"I agree we should be proactive," said Villani, adding the matter should be referred to town councils to provide policy direction and to determine who will pay. "Let the elected officials decide."

Hicks asked for a revision to the report to define which groups would be asked to pay before it was referred to councils for review.

The board agreed.

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WEDDING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Kimberley Warmington and **Tyler Atkinson**, along with their families are pleased to announce their marriage. The beautiful outdoor wedding took place on Thanksgiving weekend 2013 and was held near Ottawa.
The happy couple are now living in Calgary. Best wishes from your families.

Happy couple **Anthony Dion** & **Terri-Lynn McKay** are pleased to announce their marriage that took place September 14, 2013 at Moon River, ON where they will continue to reside.

ANNOUNCE YOUR OCCASIONS

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YOUR HEALTH

President's own story: 15 years ago I started to have arthritis, prostate, kidney, snoring and sleep apnea problems, which were all helped quickly with natural health products. I made it my life's purpose to help others. *Nick A. Jerch*

Frequent BATHROOM TRIPS?

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Works also for male incontinence. Works in virtually every case. If you are considering surgery, try this tea first. Hundreds of delighted men testifying on our web site: ■**Had to get up every hour** at night. Now I get up once a night. *Joseph Whittaker, Sewell, NJ* ■ **I cancelled my prostate surgery.** Get up once a night. I'm so happy not to have to face the torment of a prostate operation and possible incontinence and impotence. *Albert E. Blain, 74, Schumacher, ON* ■**Even after TURP prostate surgery** and microwave therapy had to get up many times. Now down to 1-2 times. Tea is 100% better than drugs. *Robert G. Stocker, Eustasis, FL* ■**After 1st year drinking tea** my PSA went down to 4.5; after 2nd year to 2.9; after 3rd year to 2.3. I highly recommend the tea. A real life saver. *Thomas M. Thurston, Forsyth, GA*

Bell Bladder Control Tea #4b

Women have relief within days from **incontinence**, frequency, urgency and pain. Stop needless suffering and embarrassments. Go shopping & traveling with confidence. Stop wearing padding or diapers. True evidence with full names and towns.

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■**No more wetting accidents.** Within a week I was in complete control. No side effects like with drugs I took. *Deborah Haight, 49, Collingwood, ON*

■**Incredible results.** It's hard to believe a non-drug item is producing such quick relief. I suffered for 20 years with frequency and embarrassments. I now sleep through the night. *Linda Kleber, 62, Milford, NJ* ■ **Tea represents truth in advertising!** Being a skeptic, I ordered this Bladder Control Tea for Women as a more or less last resort, after trying every medication in the last 5 years. It worked better than I hoped for. Had relief within 6 days. Thank you for this great product, and above all, for truth in advertising. *Marina Rosa, 57, Las Vegas, NV*

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High blood pressure is called the silent killer. If your BP is higher than normal, try to get it down to about 120/80. For many people it is easy to control. If it does not work for you we refund your money. On our website you will find over 50 testimonials with full names and towns from all over USA and Canada. Most of them have listed phone numbers and are happy to talk about the relief they had. No money was paid for testimonials. **Dr. C. Hammoud M.H., Ph.D.** recommends this effective fish peptide blood pressure natural product. So does Dr. Julian Whitaker M.D.

Truthful actual experiences from real people: ■**I was on 3 blood pressure drugs** that did not work well. After starting Bell #26 my readings are generally well below 120/80. *Dona A. Anderson, 76, Sooke, BC* ■ **My blood pressure was 157/90** and I had side effects from prescription drugs. I bought a monitor. After 6 months on Bell #26 I was down to 120/80. *Toni L. McCuistion, 52, Elizabethtown, PA* ■ **Blood pressure went from 170/110 down to 110/70.** Was on three medications that didn't help. Within a month on Bell#26 my BP dropped to 110/70. I thought I didn't need it anymore and the BP went up to 170/110 again. I will now stay on Bell. I am surprised about its effectiveness without side effects. Bell exceeds my expectations. Patrick McManus, 52, Edmonton, AB ■ **At work my driver's medical** test was too high at 170/100. After taking Bell #26 for a few days I went down to 128/84 which allowed me to pass my work medical. *Kris Geier, 48, Windsor, ON.*

100% Truthful testimonials with full name and towns. Real people you can call, if you want more reassurance. More testimonials on the Bell website. No money is paid for testimonials.To ensure this product is right for you, always read label and follow the instructions.

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Dr. C. Hammoud, M.H., PhD recommends this product to cleanse your body of fat and toxins, your liver, your intestines and your colon. It helps to regulate blood sugar balance – imbalance may cause weight gain. Having a healthier body will give you more energy. ■Bell #10 helps by reducing my excess weight, giving more energy, I feel better, can cope with everyday life. I've lost 10 lbs. without extra efforts. Optional advice in the box. *Rosanna Crispino, 38, Toronto, ON* ■ **For a few years I felt something isn't quite right** in my body's digestion. After starting #10 I noticed a difference in days. I feel less bloated and could go a few times a day, which you are supposed to. I read things should not be held up in our colon. Co-workers started #10 as well. *Vivian Purlett-Harry, 30, Brooklyn, NY* ■ **I have been struggling with weight and eating problems all my life.** I'm in my 6th week taking #10 and lost 28 lbs. I changed some eating habits, go for walks, regained mental confidence and peace with life. *Thomas Kenneth Mills, 49, Roanoke, VA*

WRIST PAIN

#30 NPN 80045489

Bell Carpal Tunnel Syndrome #30 gave quick relief within an hour. I was hand milking cows and began having weakness, numbness and pain shooting up my arms. Pain increased at night. My doctor suggested surgery as the only option. Not true! The pain and numbness are all gone after taking #30. I can do now whatever activity I want. Marjorie Wilson, 55, Dubuc, SK ■ **I'm a car mechanic.** Holding tools was getting increasingly difficult because of wrist and tendon pain. After 2 weeks on #30 I'm fully productive again. Cancelled scheduled surgery. William Marrero, 56, Miami, FL ■ **I was wearing wrist braces.** A woman saw it and told me she had relief right away with #30. I got some same day. It worked for me as well. Thanks a million. Diane Frank, 49, North Battleford, SK ■ **I'm a nurse and work with my hands all day.** I experienced increasing pain in my hands and fingers. Surgery was the only option I was told. My husband found #30 for me. I have no more pain or inflammation since. You have a life long customer. Nina Wallace, 52, Dacula, GA

HRT Menopause Combo

#33 NPN 80005070

■**Hot flashes and night sweats stopped completely!** I was having a horrible time. The night sweats kept me awake. During the daytime I experienced at least 20 hot flashes. After taking Bell #33 HRT my hot flashes and night sweats were gone. I am sleeping well again. Other menopause products didn't work well enough. Charlene Currie, 52, Winnipeg, MB ■ **Headaches, sweating, dizzy, insomnia, mood swings, hot flashes all gone!** For 15 years I was suffering with menopausal health problems. Premarin made me sick to the stomach. I was in bad shape until I found Bell HRT Menopause #33. I feel great now. This is no lie. It does work! Sandra Mountney, 50, Bancroft, ON ■ **No night sweats. Yeah, I finally feel good again!** For the last 5 years I have gone through a lot of physical discomfort. I would get those hot flashes day and night and you just couldn't strip down when the sweat runs from your face, armpits and boobs. Nothing worked including Indol 3 Carbinol, MacaSure, prescription medication made it worse. My health food store owner Holly has saved my life with Bell HRT Menopause #33. Debbie Rahn, 55, Spruce View, AB ■ **For the last 2-3 years my life was miserable**, had mood swings, extreme anger, depression, feeling suicidal because of my menopausal emotions. After about 3 days on Bell HRT Menopause #33 I felt like a new person. I was singing in the kitchen and my partner was wondering what I was so happy about. I feel hopeful, positive and now have often a smile on my face. I thank you soooo much! Christina Kearns, 53, Kingston, ON ■**Hot flashes, insomnia, low libido, complete relief!** For the last 10 years I had increasingly menopausal discomforts. Since taking Bell HRT Menopause Combo #33 I had complete relief. I sleep well, I got my groove back and my husband is a happy man again. It worked like a miracle. Uwanda Boyd, 41, Hamden, CT

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People Wrote us: My Kidney functions increased from 46% to 63% after drinking #76 Bell Kidney Cleanse & Function Tea for 3 months. Sayed Shah, 70, Richmond, BC ■**As a diabetic my kidney function was decreasing** by 40% and I was warned I was heading for dialysis. After 2 months my new test came back with a 76% kidney function increase. Thank you for a product that actually works. Hyacinth Twin, 73, Miami, FL ■ **For the last 4 years** my doctor told me that my kidneys did not function properly. After using the Bell Kidney Tea for 9 weeks my GFR Filtration Rate went from 29 to 43. I couldn't be more delighted. I intend to drink the tea until I reach my goal of a GFR of 60. This product really works. Aaron H. Goldman, 86, Bronx, NY ■ **The Mount Sinai School** of Medicine Newsletter May 2010 states that normal kidney function cannot be restored with medicine. The main goal of treatment is to slow the progression of the disease by eating more fresh fruit and vegetables. This is the advice 40 million Americans with abnormal kidney function get (in Canada about 4 million could benefit greatly from this kidney tea). ■ **The president of Bell Lifestyle** is using the tea himself with a kidney function increase from 45% to 61% in 2 months and guarantees that the tea works or he refunds your money.

St. Patrick's Dinner at Churchill United

MIRIAM KING Innisfil Examiner

Green (ginger) ale and Guinness-style (root) beer were served up along with the ham, potatoes, coleslaw, vegetables and home-made pies at the annual Churchill United Church St. Patrick's Dinner, on Sunday, March 16. Not only did the annual event serve up a delicious dinner, there was free entertainment in the church sanctuary, between dinner sittings. Young dancers with the Miller School

Pachi the Porcupine drops into Cookstown Central

MIRIAM KING
Innisfil Examiner

Cookstown Central Public School welcomed a very special guest on Tuesday: Pachi the Porcupine, the official mascot of the 2015 Toronto Pan American and Para-PanAm Games.

He was accompanied by members of the TO2015 promotional team, including rhythmic gymnast Rosie Cossar, who competed in both the 2011 Pan Am games and 2012 London Olympics.

The visit wasn't all that surprising. After all, Cookstown was chosen as a venue for the 2015 Pan American shooting competition, with the Toronto International Trap and Skeet Club on 5 Sideroad receiving federal dollars to upgrade to a world-class facility.

And if not many had heard of the Pan Am Games at the start of the whole-school assembly. Only a few students raised their hands when asked by TO2015 Mascot coordinator Brady Paron.

But by the time the assembly was over, everyone knew that the Pan Am - Para-Pan Am Games would be drawing approximately 10,000 athletes, coaches and official from 41 countries in North, South and Central America and the Caribbean, a bigger contingent than attended the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver.

They also learned that Pachi was designed by four students, all aged 13 or 14, from Buttonville Public School in Markham, who won a mascot contest, and that he is travelling to schools throughout the province, giving a friendly face to the upcoming Pan Am games.

So far, said Cossar, the team has visited 115 schools and approximately 40,000 kids and everywhere, has seen the excitement build.

MIRIAM KING Innisfil Examiner

Pachi the Porcupine, the official mascot of the Toronto 2015 Pan Am - Para Pan Am Games, visited Cookstown Central Public School on Tuesday.

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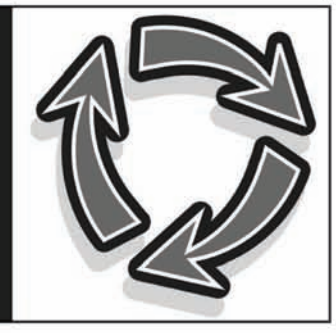

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MLS# 1401089 $429,000
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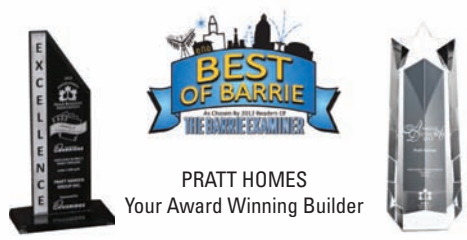

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Exceptional home & Cul-De-Sac, Midhurst
$1,695,000
Extraordinary architecturally designed Custom home on 1.7 acre treed estate. 7600 sq ft beautifully quality finished, including the indoor pool area. Amazing windows & skylights, soaring ceilings, & so much to see. Midves Crt. MLS 1400545

Dundonald & Theresa St $688,000
Prime East End Barrie loca… charming 4,000 sq ft well… tained 5 … edroom century … on … rge … e treed lot. Cov… rch… ens & double garage. … tail, a special property. Dundonald St. MLS 1307870

SOLD

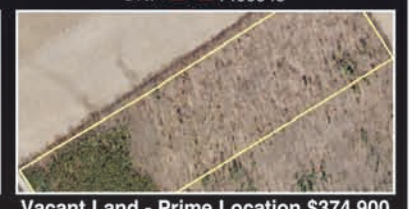
Willow Creek - Midhurst $649,000
Well maintained, updated stylish home backing on Willow Creek, inground pool, decking, patios, gardens, awnings. Grand staircase, open plan kitchen overlooks family room & yard, luxurious ensuite, granite, hardwood, ceramics, finished basement. Cairns Blvd. MLS 1307393

NEW LISTING

Wildwood Estates $569,800
Impressive 3+1 bedroom open concept upgraded bungalow on a larger lot amongst lovely neighboring homes in treed area. Hardwood, ceramics, high ceilings, updated baths & décor. Professionally finished basement. Grouse Glen. MLS 1401712

NEW LISTING

Attractive Grandview Home $424,900
Open concept, eat-in kitchen overlooking family room with F/P & W/O to deck & yard, 4+2 bdrms, 3 ½ baths, separate entrance bsmt with inlaw apt or use yourself. Main floor office & laundry. Hardwood, ceramics, pot lights. Prince William Way. MLS 1401457



Vacant Land - Prime Location $374,900
Approximately 24.5 acres of beautifully wooded relatively level land in prime location between Snow Valley Highlands and Stone Gate. Future development potential and minutes to Barrie, Snow Valley ski hill, golf and more. Barrie Hill Rd. MLS 1304938

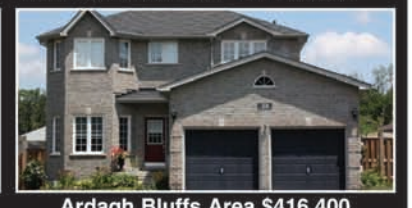
NEW LISTING

East End – Fantastic Street Appeal $449,800
Beautifully set back, well maintained century home with additions. Huge private 76' x 247' mature treed lot, front porches, pool, gardens, charm & character! Melrose Ave. MLS #1401691

Innisbrook Estates 9.8 acres $1,499,000
Custom built over 7250 sq ft finished on 3 levels, 5 bdrms, 5 baths, cathedral ceilings, elevator, beautiful interior finishing's, windows, staircases, foyers & neighboring homes. Large principal rooms, extensive landscaping, decks, & patios. Impressive! Innisbrook St. MLS 1400659

Park like Setting $224,900
Bungalow with nice front porch on a 75' x 200' mature treed lot. Nicely set back from the road & great treed back drop. 3 bedrooms, eat-in kitchen, hardwood floors, gas fireplace, shed. Great country spot in town. Essa Rd. MLS 1401078

27 Acre Estate + 2 Shops $795,000
Well maintained lovely home, over 4800 sq ft finished, triple garage, laneways, pool, gardens, patios, & porches. Nicely set back, private amongst trees, ravine, & stream. Updated kitchen & baths, hardwood, granite. Truly Special! Moonstone Rd W. MLS 1400372



Ardagh Bluffs Area $416,400
Modified 2430 sq ft home, … ncept, 9' ceilings, hardwood … celain … oughout the mai… en … om, front office, … … ppboard space, gas F/P, … yard & view! Family friendly cul-de-sa… Springwood Crt. MLS 1400643

SOLD

Snow Valley's newer Street $799,000
Stylish quality custom open concept bungalow on quiet private cul-de-sac, forest surrounds. Walkout nicely finished basement. Beautiful kitchen. Cathedral window wall & large deck Luxurious master & ensuite – elegant tub & separate glass shower. Inspiring! Heron Blvd. MLS 1400359

NEW LISTING

Popular Allandale $324,800
Beautifully updated & renovated walkout bsmt bungalow, newer kitchen, furnace, central air, windows & exterior doors, stylish updated bathrooms, attractive hardwood floors, stainless steel appliances. Backing on Shear Park treed area. William St. MLS 1401703

Lakeside Living $474,900
Lake Simcoe setting, prime location across from Kempenfelt Bay, mature 68' x 144' lot, picturesque street. Renovated open concept home with updated interior, larger than it looks. Kempenfelt Dr. MLS 1305349

7 Acres – Shanty Bay $349,000
A piece of beautiful land minutes to RVH, Barrie, & Lake Simcoe. Older home needs much work – mostly land value here – build your dream home in a rural setting yet close to everything. Golf & hwy access nearby. Line 2 S. MLS 1307286

East End Bungalow $274,800
Clean well cared for all brick h… deep lot with country view over … field … kitchen walks out … vi… finished walkout … … om, bedroom, bathroom … laundry. Bright & nicely decorated … chanan St. MLS 1401108

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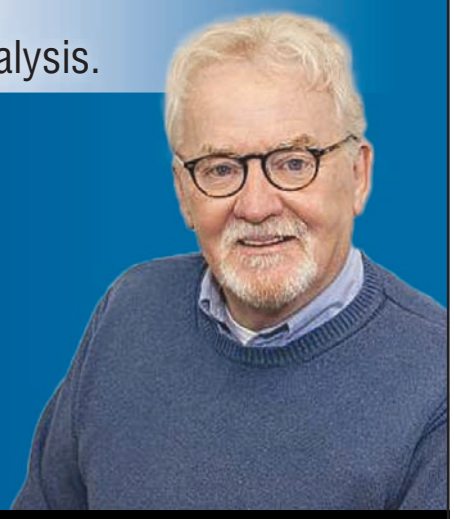

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$179,900.00 Excellent opportunity to get into the market in this lovely 2+1 bedroom bungalow situated on just over a ½ acre lot conveniently located between Midland and Barrie. Many recent updates include, newer shingles, newer gas furnace, some newer windows, deck in rear yard, hot water tank, and renovated bath. Extensive landscaping in both front and rear yards. Don't miss out please call for a personal viewing.

$150,000.00 to $240,000.00 "APTO" Build your dream home on one of these Executive lots in Prestigious "Apto Glen Estates", lot sizes range from 1.5 acres to 2.8 acres, all lots have mature trees, building restrictions and covenants are in place to protect your investment, a short drive to Barrie or Elmvale. Seller may consider a short term Mortgage back. H.S.T. is in addition to the purchase price, All Development Charges and Building Permits are in addition to the purchase and paid by the Buyer. Please call Al or Elaine for further information. MLS # Various

$184,900.00 Carefree Living in Elmvale: Welcome to Maplecrest Court, an adult lifestyle community located in Elmvale. New appointed units offer quality and design you come to expect from Hedbern Homes. 1 & 2 bedroom units available and range from 787 sq. Feet to 1321 sq. Feet. Prices range from $184,900.00 to $279,900.00. Exquisite finishes include 9 foot ceilings, ceramic tiles in all wet areas, in suite laundry and 6 appliances included. Don't delay please call Elaine or Al to set up a appointment. MLS # Various

Professional offices main floor 1200 square feet just renovated includes two private offices reception area large boardroom could be two more offices, two washrooms, kitchenette, plenty of parking; utilities included $ 1000.00 per month plus H S T for the first year. ****PLEASE NOTE** Landlord will renovate into whatever suits your needs for your small business, Zoned EM4??? Call Elaine or Al to set up a appointment. MLS #1306937**

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Is it better to buy a new or resale home?

(NC) The decision to buy a home is usually both exciting and daunting. While you may know the size or style of home you want, such as condominium or townhouse, the choice between a new or resale home is another important consideration.

Both new and resale homes have their advantages and drawbacks, which may range from having a home with character and history to customizing a brand new space for a turnkey experience.

"What some people may not know is that there are different legal considerations when purchasing a new versus resale home," says Ray Leclair, vice president of public affairs at LAWPRO. "Purchasing a home is a significant investment, so be sure to protect it by addressing uncertainties with a real estate lawyer."

To help in your decision-making between a new or resale home, Leclair advises considering the following factors:

New home

Advantages:

• The work is compliant with the latest construction and safety code requirements;

• Warranties for construction/appliance/system defects provide peace of mind;

• A building-location survey is generally available.

Drawbacks:

• Construction may not be completed in time for the proposed move-in;

• The buying decision may be based on plans, rather than actually viewing the property or seeing a similar model;

• There may be ongoing construction around the home or in the neighbourhood and landscaping and upgrades are discouraged while work proceeds or within warranty periods.

Resale home

Advantages:

• Buyers can see what they are buying and have the opportunity to inspect the home;

• Generally the home will be in an established neighbourhood without ongoing construction;

• The neighbourhood landscape and infrastructure is known and ready to enjoy – think parks, schools and shopping.

Drawbacks:

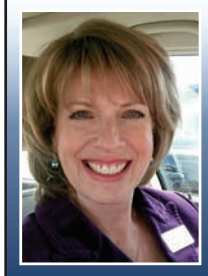
• There will likely be no warranties or recourse if a defect is discovered;

• It may be difficult to see any hidden problems and there is no guarantee that plumbing, electrical or the construction are up-to-code;

• If there is a building-location survey, it is likely dated.

While these lists aren't comprehensive, they can help buyers determine what's most important when shopping for a new home. Ultimately, the key is to make an informed decision and find something that suits budget, neighbourhood preferences and personal style.

www.newscanada.com



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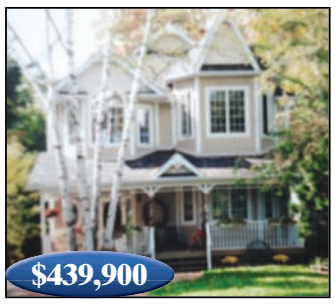
GO FISH!
Winter is almost over - and that means it's time to start thinking about swimming at the cottage! This great property features 50' of sandy waterfront on Lake Simcoe! Featuring 3 bedrooms, this year round home offers spectacular sunrise views! With warm pine throughout and a stone fireplace for cozy nights!

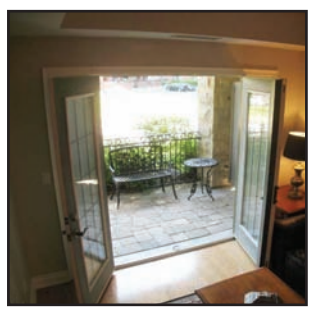
FENCE ME IN
Charming, 3 bedroom sidesplit on quiet steet in convenient Barrie neighbourhood. Large, private fenced-in yard for the dog and kids. Updated mocha coloured kitchen cabinetry with stainless steel fridge and stove. Luxurious ceramic, bamboo and hardwood flooring. Close to parks, waterfront, and GO station! Come take a look!



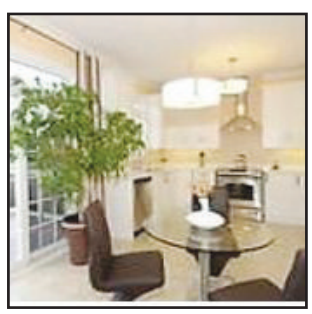
SUMMER DREAMIN'
Similar to photo. Brand new 3 bedroom home to be built on large lot in mature neighbourhood in historic Lefroy! Just a short walk to a sandy waterfront park where you can dip your toes in the lake! Park your boat at Monto Reno Marina at the end of the street and enjoy all Lake Simcoe has to offer!

HOLD YOUR HORSES!
Great opportunity to own nearly 20 acres close to Barrie in Wyevale! Two barns with several stalls each and lots of hay storage above, large fenced paddock with track, several fenced smaller paddocks, and separate large workshop! Unique 1 1/2 storey home with 3 bedrooms, bright kitchen. Call Sharon to view!

THE SUITE LIFE!
Enjoy one of the most prestigious condo addresses in Barrie! Elegant main floor suite features private patio, 9' ceilings, ceramic and hardwood flooring, Corian countertops, 2 bedrooms, 2 bathrooms including ensuite, and 2 indoor parking spots. Just a short stroll to restaurants, shops, Kempenfelt Bay and all downtown amenities.



UNBRIDLED LUXURY
Former builder's model home in fantastic south-east Barrie neighbourhood! Amazing upgrades, featuring 9' ceilings, gleaming hardwood, upscale columns, bright principal rooms, fireplace, professionally finished basement with separate entrance. Total 6 bedrooms and 6 bathrooms. Live in luxury this summer!



Innovative water systems let you renovate in tight spots

(NC) Are you looking to add a spare bathroom, update the kitchen, or add a laundry room, but worry that a conventional renovation would be impossible, or break your budget? Consider a macerating- or drain-water system as an alternative, if:

• You need to add an addition such as a bathroom in an already finished space, like a laundry room, but don't want the added cost and mess of tearing up the floor to install a rough-in. Macerating toilets systems route flush-water through the back of the toilet instead of down through a floor drain allowing them to be installed over top of any finished surface.

• You want to install in a basement, but the main sewage line exiting your house is above the basement floor. Macerating systems use a fast-rotating blade to breakdown waste and toilet paper in the flush water, which is then pumped through small-diameter piping up and/or across to the nearest drain line or plumbing stack.

• Adding a bathroom/laundry room exactly where you want it means the drain lines required for a conventional toilet will snake through multiple rooms or levels to connect to the existing plumbing stack. Unlike the 3-inch sewage lines required by conventional toilets, the 3/4-inch piping used by macerating systems can be easily run inside walls and between floor joists with minimal construction or mess.

Most macerating and drain water systems also feature additional drainage inlets, for the connection of a sink and bath/shower in addition to the toilet, letting homeowners complete their renovation exactly where it's needed.

More information is available online at www.saniflo.ca.

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16 Pinecliff Crescent
Open concept, spacious 4 bdrm, 3 bath. All brick premium lot on cres backing onto EP land. Nanny suite in basement w/ separate entrance.
Asking $459,900 • MLS 1400822

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349 Salem Road
Over 1 acre of private property backing onto EP land. Ranch bungalow with 3 bed, 2 bath. Detached oversize double garage/workshop.
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310 Miller Drive
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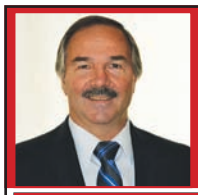

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Save on energy bills by putting the environment first

(NC) Being environmentally conscious is also going to put money in your pocket.

Yes, you can significantly reduce your carbon footprint if you have an efficient home and use cleaner products. And with the increasing cost of energy, there are also significant savings to be had by reducing your use of utilities. Here are some eco-improvements that will save you a bundle, and put you on Mother Nature's 'good' list:

Insulation: If your house is older, chances are the insulation doesn't meet the new requirements. An improperly insulated attic is a primary source of energy loss and results in your furnace and air conditioning units working harder than necessary. By topping up the existing attic insulation you can significantly reduce the amount of energy loss. A popular product for this DIY project is called Roxul RockFill insulation. It is easy to work with by simply spreading the product out onto the material that is already there.

House appliances: Replacing your furnace, hot water tank, and air conditioning unit with highly efficient models is usually a good start when reducing the energy consumption of your home.

Windows: It's usually obvious when it's time for new windows – and the related technology today is far superior to anything that is more than 20 years old. If you want to reap all the benefits of new windows, be sure to tell the installer doing the measurements that you want them to be "brick to brick," not "inserts". Inserts leave you with smaller windows placed into the old, inefficient jambs.

Quick weekend projects: There are a few quick and simple improvements that you can tackle on your own that will increase the efficiency of your home for very little cash invested upfront. Here is a quick eco-list:

- Caulk around windows
- Add weather stripping to door gaps
- Install low-flow shower heads
- Put aerators on faucets
- Switch to compact florescent bulbs
- Change your furnace filter
- Set up a programmable thermostat

Scott McGillivray is a full-time real estate investor, contractor, television host, writer, and educator.

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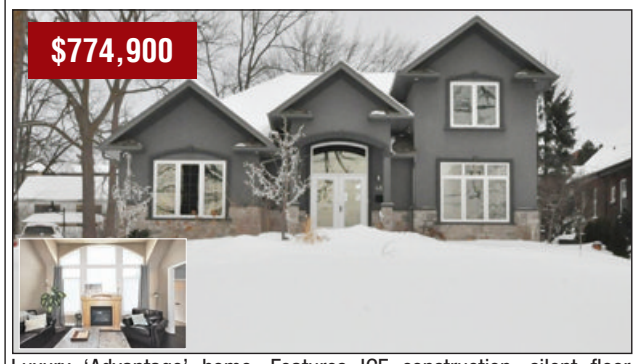

Luxury 'Advantage' home. Features ICF construction, silent floor system, cathedral ceilings, heated floors, freshly painted...Just to start. Open concept layout, lg breakfast bar, granite/slate/bamboo/hardwood flooring. Lg main floor master w/5pc ensuite (steam shower) & his/her closets **kids can have their own loft area upstairs. 2 Bedrooms & 4pc bath. 10+++ Sought after area.

WATERFRONT FAMILY FUN

85' Southerly exposure lake front cottage. Built in 1966 boasts panoramic views of Kempenfelt Bay/Big Bay Point. Also offers 22'x18' bunkie when upgraded gives the option of entertaining guests in their own unit. Boat house, concrete dock and further dock extension. Beautiful piece of property

SANDY COVE ACRES

2 bdrm, 2 bath home located in stress free Sandy Cove Acres. This adult community is a lifestyle for those wanting walking distance to all amenities. Enjoy rec centers, library, pools and loads of other activities. Home offers open concept layout, newer high-end windows (2008), newer roof, all new flooring throughout, updated bathroom. All 5 appliances, central A/C, awning, shed and 2 parking spots with this home. Great curb appeal. Call for more info.

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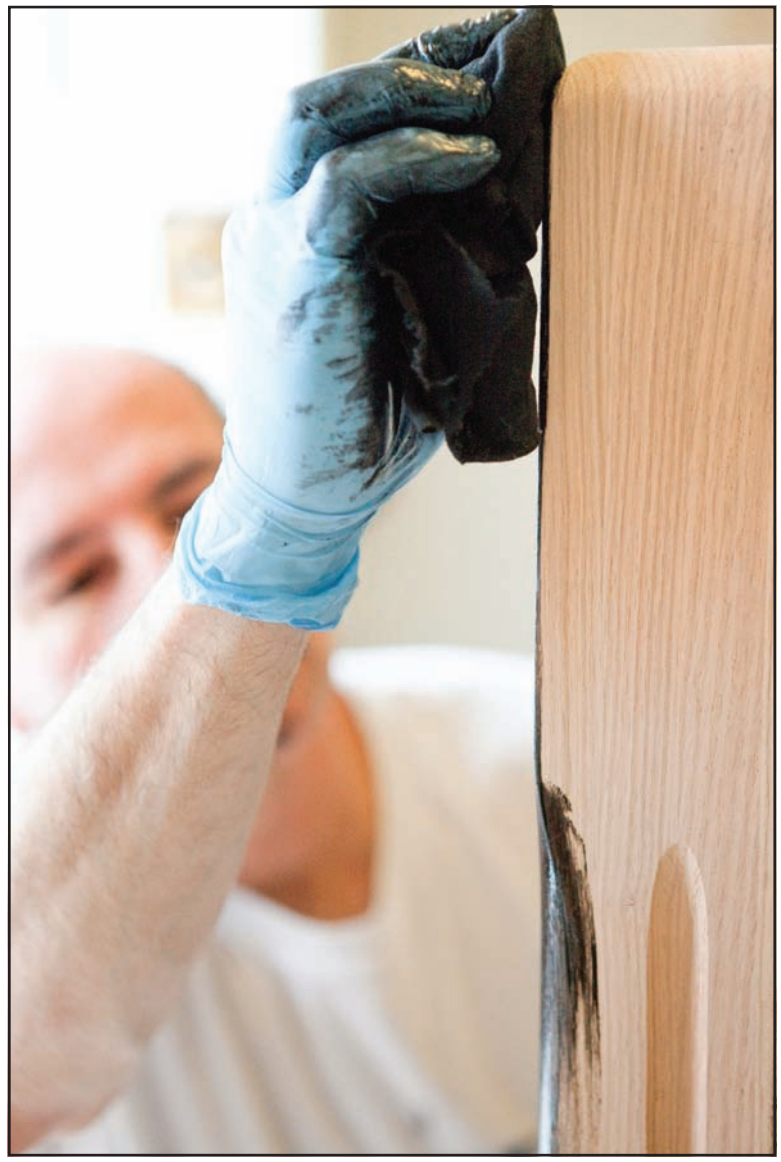
All renderings are Artist's concept. Prices and specifications are subject to change without notice. E. & O.E.

Quick tips on staining wood surfaces



(NC) Staining brings out the best in a wood surface. Adding stain to a wooden surface not only aligns the colour to match a room's décor, however it also emphasizes the natural grain pattern on any wood. Staining and finishing furniture, picture frames, and other wood surfaces is a simple DIY project that will refresh the look of any room.

Here are some professional staining tips that focus on pre-staining procedures, effective products, and applications that will ensure the best results for your finished product:

Equipment for project
Fine grit sandpaper
Disposable rubber gloves
Minwax Wood Finishing Cloths
Clean rag

Directions

Sanding: Always prepare the wood with a light sanding. Sanding the wood surface ensures you get a nice even coat of stain when the time comes. Always sand in the direction of the grain to avoid leaving unsightly scratches. Use a fine grit sandpaper or even a very fine grit to get a smooth down appearance. Make sure to remove all the sanding dust before moving on.

Preparation: To keep hands clean, wear the gloves provided in the Minwax Finishing cloths package. Open the front label. Remove a stain cloth. Close the front label to keep cloths from drying out.

Application: Using the stain cloth wipe in the direction of the wood, working the colour into the surface. After the stain has been applied, wipe the stain off immediately for a lighter tone, or for a deeper tone, leave it on 5-10 minutes before wiping off using a clean rag. Similarly to the application of the stain, make sure to wipe off any excess stain going in the direction of the grain of wood. Never allow any excess stain to dry on wood surface—it will cause all sorts of adhesion and other issues.

Evaluation: After letting the finish sit for an hour, evaluate your work. If you are satisfied do not apply any further stain. However, for an even deeper color and sheen, wait one hour, then apply a second coat, using a fresh cloth. Remember – Stain provides colour, but not protection. Once the stain has dried, apply a clear finish product such as Minwax Polycyclic Protective finish to protect both the stain and the wood.

For more information visit www.minwax.com

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Add eye-catching style to functional tools

(NC) We all have our 'must-have' items that we carry around everywhere. But just because they are essentials doesn't mean they can't be stylish too. Here is a list of everyday items that can also bring out your inner style:

Patterned umbrella – Stand out in a sea of drab black with a colourfully patterned umbrella. It even doubles as a fun fashion accessory.

Sunglasses – These are the quintessential accessory. Whether classic or fun, go with a pair that shows your personality.

Ribbon hair elastics – Doubling as stylish arm candy, these handy hair ties are perfect for crazy hair days.

Personalized phone case – Why not take your cell phone from functional to fabulous with a colourful case? With hundreds of options, it's easy to make your phone reflect your individual style.

Convenient go-pack tissues – Not only are they convenient for unexpected sniffles and sneezes, but one manufacturer has created a stylish accessory to have in your purse. In celebration of its 90th anniversary, the Kleenex brand has partnered with style icon, Isaac Mizrahi, to introduce four new and unique designs. Look for them everywhere you shop, and at www.Kleenex.com/style.

www.newscanada.com

Tips for installing a cost-effective bathroom

(NC) The bathroom is one of the most highly trafficked and important rooms in the house. When it comes to installing a new bathroom it is important to establish a plan and a budget. This can be challenging as installing plumbing and drainage lines can be very time consuming and costly.

Here are some tips to establishing a cost-effective budget without sacrificing functionality and design.

Know your DIY limits: Assess which aspects of the project you can complete yourself, and which ones you will require a professional. Over-estimating your DIY ability will be effective for the budgeting stage, however unrealistic self expectations can set you back both financially and time wise.

Ventilation: Moisture can be your bathrooms greatest long-term foe. If your bathroom is not properly ventilated mold and mildew can cost you a fortune down the road. If possible, include windows for natural light, and ventilation. If it is not possible to include a window, then be sure to install a ventilation fan, which pulls air out and allows fresh air to draw back in. The size of the ventilation fan is dependent on the size of your bathroom.

Macerating toilet systems: Known as the new generation of plumbing, macerating toilet systems are a fast, cost-effective, and eco-friendly option for bathroom installations and renovations. With macerating systems, the water is routed through the toilet into a macerator where a rotating blade reduces waste and toilet paper, so it can be pumped through ¾ inch pumping to the nearest drain line. This allows drain lines to run without opening up walls and floors. The system not only saves you money on conventional plumbing costs, but it uses approximately 38 per cent less water per flush.

More information on these toilet systems is available online at www.saniflo.ca or toll-free at 1-800-363-5874

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Paint your way into spring with trendy colours

(NC) Spring is the time to lighten up, and there's no better way to get ready for the season than with a fresh coat of paint in your home. An abundance of inspiring hues are in full bloom right now and Sharon Grech, the colour and design expert at Benjamin Moore, shares her favourite colour palette picks, as follows:

All about blue: It is the colour of sea and sky, and it's a top choice for paint and accessories this year. In fact, Benjamin Moore named Breath of Fresh Air, a light, ethereal blue,its 2014 Colour of the Year. Breath of Fresh Air accompanies a palette of 23 Trend Colours that both stand on their own and work in harmony, allowing the transitions of spaces and colours to flow seamlessly. "This is a direct result of the fresh colour cues and pastel trends we've seen throughout the home furnishing, fashion and even pop culture landscape," says Grech. "This colour has a filtered, nostalgic air that lends itself to any room in the house and is the perfect coloured neutral. Paired with classic grey or camel textiles and burnished metals, it feels freshly sophisticated. Plus, when paired with white," she points out, "it's simply serene."

Pastels continue to please: Soft pastel shades are a popular choice among designers and homeowners alike, as they bring an instant sense of relaxation to any space. When choosing pastel paint colours for the home, Grech recommends Lavender Mist, especially when accentuated with crisp, natural linen textiles and pops of natural greenery for a look that is fresh and inviting. For a delicate and feminine look, Peach Parfait is a sweet and soft choice – and to keep the final result from being too saccharine, pair this peachy-pink tone with a complex grey to add weight to the space.

Accessories add the perfect finishing touch: Now is the time to switch out any dark, heavy decor accents for lighter and brighter options. Warm metallic accessories like an impactful picture frame or a beautiful vase provide a welcome contrast to this refreshing spring palette. A linen throw and textured cushions help lighten the room for a fresh, inspired look.

You can follow this trend online at www.BenjaminMoore.ca or visit your local retailer for more guidance.

www.newscanada.com

Benjamin Moore's 2014 Colour of the Year, Breath of Fresh Air, is painted on the walls in Aura Waterborne Interior Paint in an eggshell finish. Painted on the trim is White Dove in a semi gloss finish.

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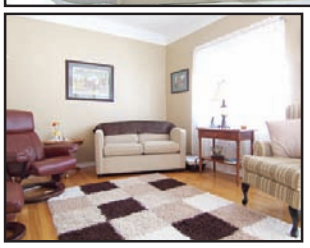

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The Township of Oro-Medonte is recruiting for the position of **"Volunteer Firefighters"** in the following stations: Horseshoe Valley (Station 3), Rugby (Station 4), and Moonstone (Station 6), however, applications will be accepted for all Stations. Applicants must reside within "The Township of Oro-Medonte" boundaries. Completed original applications and resumes will be accepted at the Administration Centre until 12:00 noon, **Friday, March 28, 2014.**

Successful applicants must hold a DZ license, or be willing to obtain within 1 year; a clean drivers abstract; a minimum Grade 12 or equivalent education; must not be attending a post-secondary institution on a full-time basis; and be a minimum of 18 years of age with no criminal convictions for which a pardon has not been granted.

Applications, job descriptions and firefighter recruitment handbooks are available for pickup at the Township Administration Centre (148 Line 7 South) from Monday to Friday, 8:30am to 4:30pm, or online at www.oro-medonte.ca on the Job Opportunities page.

Qualified candidates must be available for physical testing and a written examination to be conducted on **Saturday, April 12, 2014 at 9:00am.**

Please deliver your completed original application and resume to the attention of:

Tamara Obee, CHRP
Manager Health & Safety, Human Resources
Township of Oro-Medonte
148 Line 7 South, Box 100
Oro, ON L0L 2X0
Phone: 705-487-2171

Only original applications will be accepted.

The Township of Oro-Medonte is committed to an inclusive, barrier free environment. Accommodation will be provided in all steps of the hiring process. Please advise the Township of Oro-Medonte Human Resources Department if you require any accommodations to ensure that you can participate fully and equally during the recruitment and selection process.

Personal information is collected pursuant to The *Municipal Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*, and will be used for the purpose of candidate selection. Questions about this collection should be directed to Manager Health & Safety, Human Resources.

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Township of Oro-Medonte
TRANSPORTATION SERVICES
TENDER NOTICE

Sealed Tenders for the following, on approved forms, supplied and available from the Township of Oro-Medonte, will be received at the Administration Centre, 148 Line 7 South, Oro, Ontario, L0L 2X0, until ***9:00am on Friday, March 28, 2014.***

Contract No. TES2014-02 Slurry Seal
Contract No. TES2014-03 Hot Mix Paving
Contract No. TES2014-04 "Dark Journal" Virgin Oil
Contract No. TES2014-05 Supplying, Hauling, Mixing and Piling of Winter Sand
Contract No. TES2014-06 Construction Equipment & Operator Hourly Rentals, two (2) year terms with an option to extend for two (2) additional years.
Contract No. TES2014-07 Street Sweeper - 2014 Model Three-Wheeled High Dump Sweeper (including trade-in)

Detailed descriptions, the necessary forms, and other important information related to each of the above noted Contracts can be found by visiting **www.oro-medonte.ca** and click "Tenders" under the Featured Links section of the homepage.

Tenders will be opened at the Administration Centre on ***Friday, March 28, 2014*** at ***10:00 a.m.***

For further information, please contact:
Lisa McNiven, C.E.T., BSc
Manager, Transportation Services
Telephone: 705-487-2171 ext. 2124

The Corporation of the Township of Oro-Medonte reserves the right to accept or reject any option and also reserves the right to accept other than the lowest Tender.

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Lost and Found

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Frustration around South Innisfil Drain

MIRIAM KING
Innisfil Examiner

The South Innisfil Creek Drain improvement project continues to stir controversy.

This time, it's the bill for services presented by engineering consultants Dillon Consulting.

When Dillon Consulting finally filed the engineering report outlining required drainage improvements, last year — seven years after a Drainage Referee ordered the Town of Innisfil to retain the company to carry out the work — both residents and council were shocked and outraged, not only by the $6.7 million estimated cost of the drainage works, but by what was seen as errors and omissions in the report.

On Oct. 2, 2013, Council deferred acceptance of the report, and ordered the consultants to confer further with the conservation authority and property owners, undertaking site visits, making information available to landowners, and conducting further analyses.

On March 19, the town received a bill for $1,323,580.89, which includes not only $960,659 for the original engineering report, but an additional $361,920 for the extra consultation, reviews and modifications to the proposal carried out late in 2013 and 2014, and a proposed $155,000 "construction administration fee" for 2014-15.

Farmer Boris Horodynsky was outraged, telling council in open forum that he thought the bill represented a revised cost for the whole project, not just the engineering fees. "Get rid of Dillon, don't pay them any more money, and go after them for the money that's been paid. Sue them for incompetence," he said, urging the town to go to back to the Drainage Referee. "Let them take a look at this mess they've made."

It was a complaint by Horodynsky back in 2005 that launched the whole review of the South Innisfil Creek Drain.

Resident Diane Hogarth also urged the town to take a closer look at the billing, "especially as Dillon has not received approvals (for its report)," and the bill will ultimately be paid by the "benefiting landowners" within the South Innisfil Creek Drainage area, who are already facing huge assessments.

She called the invoice and the estimates "confusing. I think a lot more work has to go into this." Residents need to see the figures and facts."

Council was also unhappy with the bill.

Coun.Lynn Dollin asked staff to negotiate with Dillon Consulting, not only over the cost of additional work done since last October, but a $19,000 over-expenditure in the original billing, for a report that took seven years to file.

She also objected to the $155,000 fee for construction administration. "It presupposes we're hiring them for future work. I don't like giving them the assurance that any future work would be done by Dillon."

Deputy CAO Jason Reynar noted that the town has approached the new Drainage Referee to request a date for a hearing, which hopefully will take place during the week of May 5, possibly in Barrie. He suggested that a teleconference with the Parties will be held to set the date, and affidavits providing background information should be ready within the next few weeks.

"Obviously, there's a large number of residents that are affected by this," said Mayor Barb Baguley, and who will want to be involved. She asked Reynar to ensure that information be made available to the "benefiting landowners," explaining the next steps.

Reynar agreed - asking anyone wishing to be involved to contact his office, at 705-436-3710.

Baguley also suggested that the town council chambers in Innisfil could be used as a court for the Drainage Referee, allowing future hearings to be held in Town.

Council was unanimous in asking staff not to increase the payment to Dillon Consulting, but to go back and renegotiate the bill.

"We have concerns about how this unfolded. Why did this take seven years?" concluded Councillor Dollin.

Innisfil Community Bulletin

2101 Innisfil Beach Road
Innisfil, Ontario L9S 1A1
705.436.3710
Office Hours:
Monday to Friday
8:30am to 4:30pm

MARCH 21, 2014

Town Council Meetings

Wednesday, April 2, 2014

- **6:30 pm** Public Meeting - Zoning By-Law Amendment – Sandy Trail Lot Coverage – File No. D14-2014-003
- **7:15 pm Regular Council Meeting**

Wednesday, April 16, 2014

- **6:30 pm Public Meeting -** RSS/RS By-Law Amendment to Adopted Comprehensive Zoning By-Law 080-13
- **7:15 pm** Regular Council Meeting

Meetings subject to change. Please visit the Town's website to view the most updated listing.

Board/Committee Meetings

Off Leash Dog Park Committee
April 1, 2014 at 1:30 pm, Town Hall Meeting Room 2

Heritage Committee
April 3, 2014 at 7:00 pm, Community Rooms B & C

Accessibility Advisory Committee
April 8, 2014 at 1:00 pm, Town Hall, Community Rooms B&C

Economic Development Advisory Committee
April 10, 2014 at 1:00 pm, Town Hall Meeting Room 3

Committee of Adjustment
April 10, 2014 at 1:30 pm, Town Hall, Council Chambers

Meetings subject to change. Please visit the Town's website to view the most updated listing.

Employment Opportunities

Building Inspector (3 Positions)
This competition closes April 02, 2014

Please visit Employment Opportunities on the Town's website for more details.

Tenders

PQ #: PQ-14-10 – Pre-Qualifications of Janitorial Services
Closing: 2:00:00 pm Thursday March 27th, 2014

To register for this opportunity E-mail Maria Gucciardi at maria.gucciardi@southsimcoepolice.ca.
Once registered, a Pre-Qualification package will be made available by attending the South Simcoe Police

North or South Division located at:
North Division – 2137 Innisfil Beach Road, Innisfil, ON L9S 1A2
South Division – 81 Melbourne Drive, Bradford, ON L3Z 1M2

Winter Parking Restrictions

Reminder:

No parking is allowed on town streets between the hours of 3:00 am and 6:00 a.m. Restrictions in effect until May 1, 2014.

Awards Ceremony

17th Annual Business Excellence Awards

Recognizing excellence, outstanding achievement and customer satisfaction in small, medium and large businesses in South Simcoe.

April 10, 2014 at 6:00 pm

Town of Innisfil, Town Hall Building
2101 Innisfil Beach Road
Innisfil, ON L9S 1A1

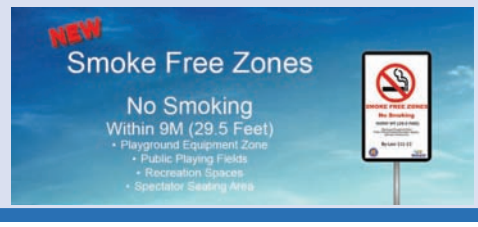
Innisfil | Nottawasaga Futures

For more information, contact Robin Brown at robin@nottawasaga.com

Spring Flooding

Spring is on its way and as the snow begins to melt there is a potential for flooding. Be prepared and know how to protect yourself and your family. Please see the Town's Website for links on what to do in the case of a flood.

Smoke Free Zones



Open House

Council Report

Cookstown Heritage Conservation District Plan

Town Hall, 2101 Innisfil Beach Road, Wed. Apr. 2 at 7:15 p.m.

Let's Celebrate

Spirit of the Community | Innisfil | Inspiring Innisfil 2020

Community Volunteer Celebration
Thank You & BBQ

Volunteers, family & friends welcome!
Sat. April 12 from 12-2 pm, Rec Complex.
Join us! RSVP to 705-436-3710 today.

Spring/Summer Register Now On